

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/709,049
Reply to OA dated January 26, 2005

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (previously presented): An illumination structure of a dial plate comprising:
a dial plate having inner figures arranged near a hole, and outer figures arranged at a distant part from the hole, said hole into which a pointer shaft is inserted;
a light source arranged at a back side of the dial plate below a pointer base, and supplying light simultaneously to a back surface of the dial plate and the pointer base;
a cylinder formed around the pointer shaft, and having an inner cavity having substantially the same diameter as said hole; and
a shade spaced from the dial plate and projecting from an outer wall of the cylinder a distance from the outer wall so as to prevent the inner figures from being illuminated by the direct light emitted from the light source.

Claim 2 (previously presented): An illumination structure of a dial plate comprising:
a dial plate having inner figures arranged near a hole, and outer figures arranged at a distant part from the hole, said hole into which a pointer shaft is inserted;
a light source arranged at a back side of the dial plate below a pointer base, and supplying light simultaneously to a back surface of the dial plate and the pointer base;

a cylinder formed around the pointer shaft, and having an inner cavity having substantially the same diameter as said hole; and

a shade spaced from the dial plate and projecting from an outer wall of the cylinder a distance from the outer wall so as to prevent the inner figures from being illuminated by the direct light emitted from the light source,

wherein said shade has a plate-like shape extending laterally from the outer wall of the cylinder.

Claim 3 (previously presented): An illumination structure of a dial plate comprising:
a dial plate having inner figures arranged near a hole, and outer figures arranged at a distant part from the hole, said hole into which a pointer shaft is inserted;
a light source arranged at a back side of the dial plate below a pointer base, and supplying light simultaneously to a back surface of the dial plate and the pointer base;
a cylinder formed around the pointer shaft, and having an inner cavity having substantially the same diameter as said hole; and
a shade spaced from the dial plate and projecting from an outer wall of the cylinder a distance from the outer wall so as to prevent the inner figures from being illuminated by the direct light emitted from the light source;
wherein said shade has a plate-like shape extending laterally from the outer wall of the cylinder, and being bent downward at an extreme end thereof.

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Claim 4 (canceled).

Claim 5 (previously presented): An illumination structure of a dial plate comprising:
a dial plate having inner figures arranged near a hole, and outer figures arranged at a distant part from the hole, said hole into which a pointer shaft is inserted;
a light source arranged at a back side of the dial plate below a pointer base, and supplying light simultaneously to a back surface of the dial plate and the pointer base;
a cylinder formed around the pointer shaft, and having an inner cavity having substantially the same diameter as said hole; and
a shade spaced from the dial plate and projecting from an outer wall of the cylinder a distance from the outer wall so as to prevent the inner figures from being illuminated by the direct light emitted from the light source,
wherein said shade has a dome-like shape extending from the outer wall of the cylinder.

Claim 6 (currently amended): An illumination structure of a dial plate comprising:
a dial plate having inner figures arranged near a hole, and outer figures arranged at a distant part from the hole, said hole into which a pointer shaft is inserted;
a light source arranged at a back side of the dial plate below a pointer base, and supplying light simultaneously to a back surface of the dial plate and the pointer base;

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a cylinder formed around the pointer shaft, and having an inner cavity having substantially the same diameter as said hole; and

a shade spaced from the dial plate and having a plate like shape projecting laterally from an outer wall of the cylinder an inverted semicircular cone a distance from the outer wall of the cone so as to prevent the inner figures from being illuminated by the direct light emitted from the light source, ~~having a plate-like shape projecting laterally from an outer wall of an inverted semicircular cone; and~~ said cone extending from an outer wall of the cylinder at a truncated tip thereof.